

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Appln. No.: National Stage Entry of PCT/JP03/12385

Attorney Docket No.: Q86486

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please replace the last paragraph on page 22 bridging pages 23 and 24 with the following amended paragraph:**

Fig. 5 is a flowchart showing an example of the operation of the embodiment of the fuel cell according to the present invention. Based on an input signal indicating a start of an operation of a fuel cell, the atomizing unit 335a and 335b start atomizing the fuel of the fuel holder 334a and 334b, respectively (step S01). Next, the electrode--electrolyte assembly 101 starts generating electric power by being supplied the fuel (step S02). The fuel controller 463 receives a signal from a load 453 which is a first signal 465 from a first voltmeter 417 (step S03). Also, the fuel controller 463 receives a second signal 467 (reference output) from a second voltmeter 419 (step S04). Then, it compares the first signal 465 to the second signal 467 (step S05). The fuel controller 463 controls the signal from the load 453 such that the ratio or difference between the first signal 465 and the

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second signal 467 (hereinafter referred to as R) is approximately constant. That is, the fuel controller 463 increases the amount of atomized second compound 483 from the second fuel holder 334b when the R is lower than a reference value A1 (step S06). On the other hand, the fuel controller 463 increases the amount of atomized first compound 481 from the first fuel holder 334a when the R is larger than a reference value A2 (is equal to or larger than A1) (step S07). It maintains the amounts of atomized both compound when the R is in the range of A1 to A2. Here, A1 and A2 are set based on the properties of the fuel cell and its operation method. When the generation of electric power is continued (step S08, NO), the control is repeated from the steps S03. When the generation of electric power is ended (step S08, Yes), the atomizing unit ~~350a~~ 335a and ~~350b~~ 335b are stopped (step S09).